App. F. IX-4

192[illegible]. (Mysore)

File No. 207-26

Previous References
Mcg 33-27-1-2-

Serial Nos. Miscl. P.

Preserved

Later References

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial Nos.

Part B for Merchant

SUBJECT

Benares Charkhana

Misc papers.

S/pl. memo no 832
Encl. One file of Corresp.

25 IRA

D 1151

Office of the Dewan of Mysore,

NOTE.

Dated 21st February *1928.*

The accompanying file of correspondence relating to the proposed transfer of certain images to the Shrine inside of the Mysore choultry in Hanuman Ghat, Benares, is returned to the Financial Secretary for favour of further action. Mr. V. N. Mehta, Collector of Benares has, in his letter of the 16th instant which is on the file, stated that the Municipal Board have since withdrawn their prohibitory order.

Dewan.

Draft letter to M.C. is subd. for approval.

25/2/28

27/2/28

FEB. 1928
4834

2nd Member

Draft appd
28.7.28

Psk.

COLLECTORATE,

BENARES.
February 16, 1928.

Dear Mr. Ismail,

Your D.O. letter No. 3205 of February 9, 1928.

I had prompt enquiries made through my City Magistrate. I also spoke about the matter to the ~~City Magistrate~~ Executive Officer Municipal Board.

The situation is thoroughly understood. I think your agent uselessly troubled you about this. Please tell him in future to see my City Magistrate. I shall see that none of the mischief makers interferes with his work.

The Municipal Board have withdrawn their order interfering with the progress of the building. So everything is alright I shall be delighted always to be of some

service to His Highness' Government. I understand Her Highness the Maharani Raj Mata Saheba would be coming here soon. I shall see that she has no inconvenience of any sort.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

M. Ismail

Mirza M. Ismail, Esq., C.S.I.,
Dewan Saheb,
Bungalore.

18th February 1928.

Do 33874

Dear Mr. Mehta,

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th instant in regard to the proposed transfer of certain images to the Shrine inside of the Mysore Choultry in Hanuman Ghat, and for your kind promise to have the matter looked into and settled. So good of you to say so.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd M

18th February 1923.

DO 33267/Encl letter

My dear Mr. Thumboo Chetty,

I am enclosing you copy of letter dated 14th February from the Collector of Benares in reply to mine requesting his assistance in the matter of the proposed transfer of the images in the Mantap to the Shrine inside of the Mysore Annachattram in Hanuman Ghat, about which there has been some local agitation. I shall be obliged if you will kindly submit the letter to His Highness for his gracious perusal.

Yours sincerely,

Sd M[illegible]

[illegible]

COLLECTORATE,

BENARES.

14/2

My dear Dewan Sahib

I am in receipt of your letter re the Hanuman Ghat temple. I was on Leaves for the C.S week I shall have the matter looked into & get it settled & inform you about it as soon as I can.

With kind regards

Yours Sincerely

V Venkata

D-03208

9th February 1920.

Dear Mr. Mehta,

I am writing this to you in the hope that you will kindly interest yourself in the matter to which I allude below:

In March of last year, when His Highness the Maharaja paid a visit to Benares, it occurred to him that some of the mutilated images in the Mantap to the east of the Mysore Annachattram in Hanuman Ghat might well be replaced by new ones and the new vigrahas, as well as the other sound ones now in the Mantap, installed in the Shrine in the interior of the chattram to avoid mutilation. The chattram Agent was accordingly instructed to take needful action about the preparation of the new vigrahas and the consecration of all these vigrahas inside of the chattram.

From a report lately received from the Agent, it would seem that on a complaint preferred by

9th February 1928.

a few residents of the place to the local Municipal Authorities that the Mantap is being destroyed, etc., they have directed the Agent not to proceed with the work. I am afraid that this decision appears to have been influenced by a misrepresentation of facts, and I feel that if the Municipal Authorities are made aware of the actual facts they will agree to the course we have in view. As I have stated above, the idea has been not to remove the images now in the Mantap altogether as the complainants seem to apprehend but only to re-instal them in another place. I should be grateful if you would be so good as to have this point of view explained to the people concerned, and use your influence to persuade them to agree to the proposed transfer of the idols from the Mantap to the Shrine in the interior of the chattram.

I hope you keep well and with all kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

S d M A

OFFICE O M I COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE.

D.O. C.1864 26.7 Encl.

Bangalore, 4th February 1928.

Dear Sir,

Referring to Government Order No.267-8/M.F.33-27-2 dated 12th August 1927 sanctioning an expenditure of Rs.105, in connection with the consecration of certain vigrahas in the chattram at Benares, I write to say that the Huzur Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore was requested to intimate in consultation with the Taluk Dharmadhikaris an auspicious date on which the deities may be installed. While this matter was under correspondence the Chattram agent at Benares reported in his No.130 dated 28th November 1927, copy of which is herein enclosed, that the removal of the vigrahas was objected to by some residents of Hanumanghat and both the Municipal authorities and the Kotwal of Benares after personally visiting the chattram had instructed him not to disturb the temple. This was communicated to the Huzur Secretary who has orally stated that Mr. Pohani Sec, Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Benares, who was coming to Bangalore about

the 16th January 1928 might be interviewed in

The Huzur Secretary, who was informed of the result of the interview with the Private Secretary, suggests in his letter of the 25th January 1928, that if the Dewan of Mysore were to write to Mr. Mehta, the Collector of Benares, explaining that the images will not be altogether removed but re-installed in another place, he might use his influence to get the people to agree to it and that he has informed the Dewan of it.

I request you to kindly place the above facts before the Dewan Saheb for favour of his orders.

Yours sincerely,

To

P. Srinivasa Iyengar, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His
Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Financial Department.

Letter No.130 dated 26/28th November 1927 from the Agent, Benares Chattram to the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.

"I beg to submit to you the following report in connection -- with the temple of Siva situate in the Mysore Choultry in the Hanuman ghat.

In March, 1927 when His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore visited Benares on the occasion of Mahasivarathri, His Highness was pleased to order that the small temple to the East of the Mysore Choultry should be removed and re-installed inside the Choultry itself. Mr. Tiruvenkata Chetty, the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, also passed orders to the same effect. Accordingly, I applied to your goodself regarding the dilapidated condition of some of the idols and also about reinstallation, and you sanctioned the amount for -- preparing fresh images and also for getting the reinstallation -- expenses. Later, you ordered that the re-installation work may be delayed, pending the decision of the Palace authorities and I have accordingly kept quiet.

Recently in the work of constructing the bathing ghat place during which had to be dug by the side of the temple above referred to for the foundation. Some residents of the Hanuman ghat came to us and complained to the Collector of Benares that the Choultry was attempting to destroy the temple. It is understood that there is started in Benares a Sabha known as the "Tirth Samaj Sabha" of which Raja Moti Chand has come to be President. The object of this Sabha seems to be the protection of all public temples, Dharmasalas and sacred baths from destruction. On the orders of the Collector, the Police Inspector of the neighbouring Bellaur Police Station came to the Choultry and asked me to give him in writing that I was not going to destroy the temple. I replied that this matter should be referred to the Mysore Government and I could not give any writing to that effect on my own responsibility. He agreed to it.

On 24-11-27, one Mr. Vaneeshwar, residing in the Bengalee quarter of the Choultry, petitioned to the Collector against the Collector being absent, the petition was referred to the City Magistrate who in turn referred it to the Municipality. The Municipality ordered this morning the Building Inspector to inspect and report. The Inspector asked me not to destroy the temple.

The Private Secretary has sent a petition to the Maha
The Sahukaran came here this evening on behalf of the Maharaja of Benares and
of Travancore and ... that the petition.

I think it my duty to ... letter to you, so that if any
... of the Government of Mysore, you may
be in ... I shall, of course, report
... any ... in the matter.

... in ... of ... of Jubbulpore,
... it ... with all ... to it, ... be ... hardly ... to ... the Mysore
Government ... I ... should, ... consulted ... whether
... Mysore Government ... petition ... the Viceroy ---
... ...

... ... to ... give ... this ...
... ...

Khan Bahadur ..., ... of ... also --
... ... should not
be ... ."

"Yours ..."

M. Clemes[illegible]

for Private Secretary.

RHL

SUBJECT.....

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Section Mis

File No. 207 V5

Serial No.

Diary No. of letter replied to.....1151.....

No. 1528

General and Revenue Secretariat

(May)

the *192*

To-

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Date of issue 3.3.28

Dear Sir,

I in reply to your D C letter no. C 1864 of 26 27 of 24-2-28 in the matter of the proposed ~~removal~~ of certain images to the Shrine inside of the [illegible] choultry in Hanuman-ghat, Benares, I am desired to inform you that Mr. W. H. Melita Collector of Benares, has in his letter of the 16th instant, stated that the Municipal Board (have since

over

Signed by M. Somasundaram

List of enclosures.....1.....

Copied by .....

Examined by .....

WD 0325—GPD—8,000—26-5-27

withdrawn their prohibitory

order -

Yours Sincerely

25/2

To.

P. Lg D'Souza Esqr

Mang: Comr ie Mysore -

27/2/28

27/2/28

No. FINANCIAL 7 MAR 1928 Office of the Muzrai Commissioner in Mysore.
Dated Bangalore, 6th March 1928.

GEN & REV SECRETARIAT 8 MYSORE

Official Memorandum.

With reference to correspondence ending with his report -- D1206
No.136 dated 12th December 1927 re objection raised by the local - officers to the removal and installation of certain vigrahas in - the chattram at Benares, the Agent Ved. Bodhayana Rama Sastry is informed that from a communication received from the Collector of Benares, it is seen that useless trouble was caused by him in the matter and that the Municipal Board have since withdrawn their orde: interfering with the progress of the work.

2. In view of the above, necessary further action may be ------ immediately taken for performing Kalakarshane and installation ----- ceremonies in strict conformity with the views of the Palace ------- Dharmadhikaris already communicated to him a report being submitted on all matters requiring orders of the undersigned.

3. In all cases of doubt or difficulty, the agent is instructed to see the City Magistrate and solicit his advice.

P. G. D'Souza,
Muzrai Commissioner.

-2-

No. C/864/26-7 87-3 28

Copy of the above is forwarded with compliments to the Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Financial Department, for information in continuation of this office D.C.No.1364 dated 4th February 1928.

Subd. for perusal - No further action seems called for. 9/3 2nd Member 9.3.28 10/3

M. Hemaraj 6/3/28
Assistant Commissioner
for Muzrai Commissioner.
(absent from Station)

5744/1013

RAC 13/3